

District III Advisory Board Minutes

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**September 1, 2004
7:00 p.m.**

**Colvin Neighborhood City Hall
2820 S. Roosevelt**

The District III Advisory Board meeting was held at 7:00 p.m. at the Colvin Neighborhood City Hall at 2820 S. Roosevelt. The District III City Council member, Phil Lambke and six (6) District Advisory Board members were in attendance. Five (5) City staff were present and approximately seventeen (17) members of the public.

Members Present

Jim Gulick
William Ward
Charlotte Foster
Judy Dillard
Matt Foley
Joann Hartig
John Kemp
Laura Simpson
Phyllis Hall
CM Phil Lambke

Members Absent

Staff Present

Vicki Mork
Officer Steve Jerrell
Sgt. Wolf
Officer Phomanjong
Jamsheed Mehta
Patsy Ellis

Guests

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ORDER OF BUSINESS

Call to Order

Council Member Lambke called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Approval of Minutes

Foster (Gulick) moved that minutes from July 7, 2004 be approved (no August DAB meeting was held).

Action: Motion passed unanimously by a vote of 9-0.

Patsy Ellis, City Clerks Office, swore in all of the currently serving District III Advisory Board members in for another term.

Public Agenda

1. Scheduled Items

None scheduled at this time

Recommended Action: Receive and file.

2. Off Agenda Items

Charlotte Foster, DAB member and president of Fabrique Neighborhood Association passed around pictures of Derby Scout Troop 365 restoring and painting the footbridge over Fabrique Creek. She said they were working on their Eagle Badge. **Ward** corrected her saying that was not the case. He explained one Scout in the troop was working toward his Eagle badge and it was his job to identify the project, organize it and work with other Scouts accomplishing the project.

Recommended Action: Provide comments/take appropriate action.

Staff Presentations

3. Community Police Report

Officer Steve Jerrell, Beat 33 modeled the official new casual uniform of the Wichita Police Department. It was well received by all present.

Officer Phomanjong was introduced as a new Community Policing Officer for East Patrol. He is the coordinator for Beat 34, which includes the Hilltop neighborhood.

Sgt. Wolf explained that effective 9-25-04 WPD patrol officers from the North, South and East Bureaus will begin working a weekly schedule of four ten hour shifts. Patrol West has been utilizing the format since a year ago with good results. The change will place more officers on the streets on a consistent basis through the realignment of personnel. It will deter criminals who have previously timed their activities to coincide with the old shift changing times, which allowed no overlap of staff. Community Policing officers, also known as Beat Coordinators, will remain on 5 day 8 hour shifts until after the first of the year.

Recommended Action: Receive and file.

4. Metropolitan Area Planning Department

Jamsheed Mehta, Transportation Supervisor presented information on the Arkansas River/Gypsum Creek Path connecting segments of Wichita's bike path network in District III. This plan represents part of the city's application to the State of Kansas for the Transportation Enhancement Program for 2006-07. This expands the bike path plan that was developed several year ago but hasn't been updated in the meantime. There are many miles of bike paths in Wichita that link Butler County with Lake Cheney. This plan tonight is trying to complete the connections. MAPD is applying to Kansas Department Of

Transportation for funding for strategically located connecting segments. **Mehta** requests DAB III review this plan and approved it. Plans submitted at this time will be approved in 2005 if chosen and funded the year after that.

Mehta reviewed the existing trails and the strategic connections, which were outlined on the map with a blue line. He explained this segment would link the Arkansas River Trail, which ends at Garvey Park near Washington and Galena Street to the Gypsum Creek Trail in Planeview Park. This project has received the endorsement of the Park Board and the Greenway Alliance, which is a technical advisory group to the MAPD. The Council will be asked to approve the concept of the project and the amount of match funding. Once the Transportation Enhancement Program is approved at the state level project funding will be authorized. **Mehta** stated that \$400,000 in CIP funds has been designated for local matching funds. The State-funding source requires a 20 percent match but COW staff recommends a 30 percent match to increase the project's weight and enhance the project's standing in the statewide selection process.

Mehta answered various questions regarding the impact of the proposed trail on property explaining there will be no right of way purchases as all property affected is either municipal or state owned. He asked for DAB III endorsement of the Arkansas River/Gypsum Creek Path project.

DAB and audience members were also interested in the current Wassal bike path connecting existing trails. They are concerned that the path would end up in the front yards of some community members and there is firm opposition to this solution, which includes CM Lambke. **Mehta** reminded DAB members that they approved the project two years ago and the funding is now available. He said he was not qualified to respond to the community questions and concerns that the project is in the design phase and being handled by Public Works Department. He understands the residential issues. **CM Lambke** stated he was opposed to the path impacting residential property and asked **Mehta** to pass his concerns along.

Recommended Action: Dillard (Ward) made a motion to recommend approval of Arkansas River/Gypsum Creek Path Connection application, as part of the Transportation Enhancement Program 2006-07, to City Council. Motion passed 9:0.

Board Agenda

5. Updates, Issues and Reports.

Council Member Phil Lambke asked for feedback from community members regarding the Police pay raise issue. **Elena Ingle**, 2608 Meadow Lane spoke in favor of a raise for the Wichita Police Department and the Fire Department and teachers but she is not in favor of a raise for General Government workers. **Jeffrey Mccroy**, 3144 Range Road spoke in favor of a raise for the Wichita Police Department and suggested the city use the money from bike path. **Jim Skelton**, 5903 E. Skinner agrees with Elena priorities

Matt Foley, 4235 E Bayley presented a petition from Hilltop residents supporting a Wichita Police Department raise. **Gulick** questioned the future implications of a WPD raise wondering if they were the only union in City Hall. **CM Phil Lambke** explained there are three unions: the Wichita Police Department; the Wichita Fire Department; and the General Services union. The City has always treated all three equally. Currently the Fire Department and General Services have existing contracts but Wichita Police Department have been negotiating for many months and in December it will be time to begin negotiations again for the next contract period.

CM Lambke said the fact finders presented good case at the recent Council meeting but he does not know feelings or position of other Council Members. The current WPD negotiations cover January – December 2004 and a new contract would be needed for next year unless that issue is addressed in current negotiations. He turned discussion to the DAB Board members.

Ward stated resolving the WPD union impasse is a major City responsibility. He supports a pay raise for the Wichita Police Department and the Fire Department because of their at risk status in everyday working. He thinks binding arbitration is a big mistake as it removes the city's input.

Kemp holds similar views, he also believes WPD work is life threatening and their life is on the line. He is anti Water Walk and town beautification. He believes Wichita trains officers for other cities and thinks if we paid better wages the WPD officers would remain here.

Hall supports raises for WPD and WFD members but not the City's general service workers. **Foster** stated Wichita should pay comparable wages to other cities. **Dillard** expressed anti Water Walk sentiments but supports higher pay for WPD and WFD members. **Hartig** said her neighborhood associations support the WPD raises. **Gulick** expressed support for the raise in the 2 ½ -3 ½ % range but he is against binding arbitration and thinks officers can keep their weapon upon retirement if they paid for it. He is not in favor of a raise for general city employees

Action Taken: Foley (Kemp) moved to support a raise only for WPD. Motion passed unanimously 9:0.

Hartig reports the Matador Lounge on S. Broadway is to re-open licensed as a restaurant but since they don't sell food but they have 6 months to prove they do. This location and business is a concern to the neighborhood.

Dillard reports that the South Neighborhood Association will host a candidate forum on September 13th. **Kemp** reports the K-15 Association will host a candidate forum at their 9-27 meeting. Their organization picnic is scheduled for 10-2 and they had a good clean up.

Hall reported Planeview Neighborhood Association had a great event on National Night with 400 in attendance. Their August 21st clean up has been rescheduled for October.

Action Taken: Receive and file.

Motion to adjourn made by Simpson (Kemp) and it passed unanimously 9:0.

6. Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting for District III Advisory Board will held October 6, 2004, 7 pm at Colvin Neighborhood City Hall.

No Action Required

Adjournment

Respectfully Submitted,

Vicki Mork, Neighborhood Assistant

Visitors

Debra Miller	DAB 1
John Stevens	3125 E. Boston
Elena Ingle	3608 Meadow Lane
Jeffrey & Ramona Murorg	3144 Range
Jim Skelton	5903 E. Skinner
Leroy Nichols	3626 Meadow Lane
Marge Health	3150 Range Road
Mike & Grace Brincefield	4730 Ida
Carole Campbell	2821 S. Mosley
Lisa Wold	2820 S. Mosley
Art & Jacqueline Delgado	2950 Range
Merle & Donna Thorton	2714 Southfork
Billie Sills	3030 Dunham